



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,003	11/24/2003	Amir Mezer	P17141	9407
28062	7590	03/19/2007	EXAMINER	
BUCKLEY, MASCHOFF & TALWALKAR LLC			LU, JIA	
50 LOCUST AVENUE				
NEW CANAAN, CT 06840			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2611	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/19/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/721,003 Jia Lu	MEZER, AMIR Art Unit 2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 16-20 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4,6-9,11-14 and 21-24 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 5,10,15 and 25 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 21, 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagaraj in US patent 5,708,703.

Regarding claims 1, 6 and 11, Nagaraj discloses a method and apparatus comprising determining a characteristic of a communication channel (figure 3, element 200); and selecting, on the basis of the determined characteristic, a pre-computed equalizer characteristic for application to signals received via the communication channel (figure 3, element 306).

Regarding claim 21, Nagaraj discloses a system comprising determining a characteristic of a communication channel (figure 3, element 200); and selecting, on the basis of the determined characteristic, a pre-computed equalizer characteristic for application to signals received via the communication channel (figure 3, element 306). While Nagaraj does not disclose the system to comprise a processor and a receiver, it is inherent that an equalizer that determines line length prior to equalization is to be used in a receiver, with a processor (office notice taken).

Regarding claims 2, 7, 12, and 22, Nagaraj discloses the communication channel to include a cable (figure 3, element 101) and the determined characteristic of the communication channel is an approximate length of the cable (figure 3, element 200).

Regarding claim 4, 9, 14, and 24, Nagaraj discloses the selecting to include selecting a pre-computed feed forward equalizer from among a plurality of pre-computed FFEs stored in a receiver coupled to the communication channel (figure 3, element 302). While Nagaraj does not specify the equalizers to be "feed forward," they are nonetheless feed forward because they are not feed-back equalizers.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 8, 13 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagaraj in US patent 5,708,703, in view of Raghavan in US patent 6,438,163.

While Nagaraj does not disclose the approximate length of the cable to be determined by an automatic gain control block, such a feature is well known in the art, as shown by Raghavan (abstract). It would be obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art to effectively calculate line length while performing gain control without added circuitry.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 10, 15 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 16-20 are allowed over prior art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jia Lu whose telephone number is 571-272-6042. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-4:30, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David C. Payne can be reached on 571-272-3024. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2611

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jia Lu
Examiner
Art Unit 2611

David C. Payne
DAVID C. PAYNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER